

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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O 181448Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
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USICA FOR ECA/IC, EU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, UR, SCUL
SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS (ECA/IC):
PAUL TAYLOR DANCE COMPANY (PTDC)

1. EMB LEARNED AUG. 17 THRU KIEV ADVANCE PARTY THAT UKRAINIAN MINISTER OF CULTURE UNABLE TO FREE KIEV OPERA THEATRE FOR PTDC PERFORMANCES THERE. SINCE UKRAINIA HALL IN KIEV UNACCEPTABLE, KIEV WILL HAVE TO BE DROPPED. IN LATER TELCON WITH GOSK'S UDIN (NESVIT'S DEPUTY), EMBOFF LEARNED THAT OF REMAINING FOUR CITIES, ONLY RIGA COULD ABSORB KIEV'S PERFORMANCES TO ENSURE 26-PRESENTATION TOUR. THIS WOULD MEAN 11 IN RIGA, 5 IN VILNIUS, 6 IN LENINGRAD AND 4 IN MOSCOW, THOUGH OPERETTA THEATER IN MOSCOW STILL NOT CONFIRMED. FIRST CONCERT WOULD BE IN RIGA ON SEP. 16 WITH ONE MATINEE ON SEP. 24 SCHEDULED THERE. ACAO-PERFORMING ARTS AGAIN NOTED THAT FROM EMB STAND-POINT, 11 CONCERTS WERE TOO MANY FOR SMALL CITY LIKE RIGA. EMBOFF ALSO REMINDED GOSK THAT PTDC'S YESSELMAN WAS SO UNHAPPY WITH HOTEL RIGA THAT HE WOULD NOT AGREE TO ADDITIONAL CONCERTS THERE. AT CONCLUSION OF TELCON, EMBOFF AGREED TO REPEAT TO ICA
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INFO ON DROPPING OF KIEV AND SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES IN RIGA.

2. FOLLOWING OPTIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED: (A) PTDC TO ARRIVE IN SOVIET UNION ONE WEEK LATER, ON SEP. 19, FOR 5 CONCERTS IN RIGA AND 20-CONCERT TOUR. THIS WILL RESULT IN APPROXIMATELY \$12,000 LOSS IN CONCERT FEES

FROM REDUCED SCHEDULE AT PRESENT RATE OF EXCHANGE (\$30,774 AS OPPOSED TO \$51,706). (B) ACCEPT GOSK'S 4 CITY 26-CONCERT SCHEDULE. (C) NEGOTIATE WITH PTDC AND GOSK A COMPROMISE ON NUMBER OF CONCERTS FOR RIGA BETWEEN OPTIONS (A) AND (B). (D) POSTPONE TOUR UNTIL LATER THIS YEAR OR POSSIBLY AS FIRST PAG FOR '79 TO FILL TIME FREED BY "ANNIE GET YOUR GUN" UNAVAILABILITY.

3. EMB PREPARED TO ACCEPT OPTION (A) IF ICA CAN RE-WRITE ITS CONTRACT WITH PTDC OR ABSORB ADDITIONAL MONETARY LOSS. WHILE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC, EMB WOULD ACCEPT 11 CONCERTS IN RIGA AS PER OPTION (B) IF THIS BECAME NECESSARY TO SAVE TOUR, BUT WOULD PREFER SCHEDULE FOR RIGA WITH MORE THAN 5 BUT LESS THAN 11 PERFORMANCES AS PER OPTION (C). EMB DOES NOT FAVOR OPTION (D) BECAUSE IT WOULD PREFER TO HAVE A PAG BOTH IN FALL '78 AND IN SPRING '79. ADDITIONALLY, PTDC MAY NOT BE FREE FROM NOV. '78 TO SPRING '79.

4. SINCE GOSK HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM OPERETTA THEATER IN MOSCOW (APPARENTLY MINCULT OFFICIALS WHO MUST GIVE PERMISSION ARE ON HOLIDAY AND NOT EXPECTED BACK UNTIL MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK), IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO CONSIDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO PTDC IF MOSCOW IS ALSO ELIMINATED. WOULD ICA BE WILLING TO CONSIDER ABBREVIATED SCHEDULE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ONLY RIGA, UNCLASSIFIED

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VILNIUS AND LENINGRAD? IF ANOTHER TIMEFRAME FOR A COMPLETE TOUR COULD NOT BE FOUND, EMB PREPARED TO ACCEPT TOUR WITHOUT MOSCOW, ASSUMING, OF COURSE, THAT FINANCIALLY IT IS FEASIBLE AND ACCEPTABLE TO PTDC. ADVISE.

5. EMBOFF NOTED FOLLOWING DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN PTDC/ DEPT. CONTRACT SIGNED SEP. 25, 1977 AND DRAFT GOSK/ EMB CONTRACT: (A) DATES FOR TOUR - EMB ASSUMES THAT PTDC/DEPT CONTRACT BEING AMENDED TO SEP. 12 - OCT. 15, 1978. (B) SIZE OF COMPANY IN PTDC/DEPT. CONTRACT LISTED AS 20 PERSONS -- IN GOSK/EMB CONTRACT AS 24 PERSONS. (C) IN PTDC/DEPT. CONTRACT IT WAS AGREED TO PROVIDE 20 LBS. EXCESS BAGGAGE FOR EACH COMPANY MEMBER TO SOVIET UNION. THERE IS NOTHING IN GOSK/ EMB CONTRACT TO PROVIDE SAME ON RETURN TO U.S. PLEASE ADVISE ON THESE POINTS. TOON

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